

#### 246.470-4

or inspections caused by the contractor, or due to the necessity for reinspection or retest. This action may be necessary when—

(1) Supplies are not ready at the time such inspection and test are requested by the contractor; or

(2) Reinspection or retest is necessitated by prior rejection.

(b) After considering the factors in paragraph (d) of this subsection, the quality assurance representative (QAR) may believe that the assessment of additional costs is warranted. If so, the representative shall recommend that the contracting officer take the necessary action and provide a recommendation as to the amount of additional costs. Costs are based on the applicable Federal agency, foreign military sale, or public rate in effect at the time of the delay, reinspection, or retest.

(c) If the contracting officer agrees with the QAR, the contracting officer shall—

(1) Notify the contractor, in writing, of the determination to exercise the Government's right under the clause at FAR 52.246-2, Inspection of Supplies—Fixed Price; and

(2) Demand payment of the costs in accordance with the collection procedures contained in FAR subpart 32.6.

(d) In making a determination to assess additional costs, the contracting officer shall consider—

(1) The frequency of delays, reinspection, or retest under both current and prior contracts;

(2) The cause of such delay, reinspection, or retest; and

(3) The expense of recovering the additional costs.

#### 246.470-4 Maintenance of Government records.

The contract administration office shall maintain suitable records of the quality assurance performance of contractors.

#### 246.470-5 Quality evaluation data.

The contract administration office shall establish a system that provides, as a minimum, for the collection, evaluation, and use of—

(a) Quality data developed by the contractor during performance;

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(b) Data developed by the Government through contract quality assurance actions; and

(c) Reports by users and customers.

#### 246.471 Authorizing shipment of supplies.

(a) *General.* (1) Ordinarily, a representative of the contract administration office signs or stamps the shipping papers that accompany Government source-inspected supplies to release them for shipment. This is done for both prime and subcontracts.

(2) An alternative procedure (see paragraph (b) of this section) permits the contractor to assume the responsibility for releasing the supplies for shipment.

(3) The alternative procedure may include prime contractor release of supplies inspected at a subcontractor's facility.

(4) The use of the alternative procedure releases DoD manpower to perform technical functions by eliminating routine signing or stamping of the papers accompanying each shipment.

(b) *Alternative Procedures—Contract Release for Shipment.* (1) The contract administration office may authorize, in writing, the contractor to release supplies for shipment when—

(i) The stamping or signing of the shipping papers by a representative of the contract administration office interferes with the operation of the Government contract quality assurance program or takes too much of the Government representative's time;

(ii) There is sufficient continuity of production to permit the Government to establish a systematic and continuing evaluation of the contractor's control of quality; and

(iii) The contractor has a record of satisfactory quality, including that pertaining to preparation for shipment.

(2) The contract administration office shall withdraw, in writing, the authorization when there is an indication that the conditions in paragraph (b)(1) of this subsection no longer exist.

(3) When the alternative procedure is used, require the contractor to—

(i) Type or stamp, and sign, the following statement on the required copy